



1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery

"ALL FOR ONE"



7 December 2009

Volume 10, Issue 1

Gauntlet BN Commander and CSM's Corner



Season's Greetings "All for One" Soldiers, Families, and Friends. It is hard to believe that the Holidays are upon us already! We hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that your preparations for the Christmas, Hanukkah (Chanukah), Winter Holidays have started well.

I am amazed how fast the time has gone by - where did the Summer and Fall go? While the time may have flown, we certainly recognize the tremendous work you all have done training and preparing our Army's newest Soldiers and we are extremely proud of your many accomplishments!

We are fortunate that the Battalion does not have the "Stay Behind" mission this year so we have the opportunity to take the full Holiday Block Leave Period (18 DEC through 1 JAN 10)! We made it through an extremely busy

Summer and Fall Training cycle and the Battalion did a fantastic job. You have all earned a well deserved break. CSM and I encourage everyone to find the opportunity to rest and recharge before we return to what will no doubt be a busy 2010.

Before we get to this break, the Gauntlet Battalion has one more major mission which is Winter Block Leave preparation and sending all our Soldiers home for the Holiday Season.

I hope that everyone has heard about our Battalion Christmas Party planned for Saturday 12 December at the FT Sill "REC PLEX" (Sheridan Drive) from 1600 until complete. It should be a great event for all families and children. We are catering the Dinner and have heard that "Santa" may drop in with a few small gifts for our boys and girls! We hope that you will join us for food and fellowship as we reflect upon all the great work that went into training several thousand Soldiers for our Army this year.

I have been extremely proud of all the Batteries and the participation that

(continuation on page 3)



Hello to the Gauntlet family once again. The last time I wrote something in the news letter the weather was a lot warmer. Also since the last news letter we have had a lot of Soldiers and families PCS onto their next duty station, too many to mention but know they all will be missed. At the same time we have received a lot of new Soldiers and families to the Battalion. I have met each of the new Soldiers and I have yet to meet the families but look forward to meeting everyone during our Christmas party.

I know the drill sergeants put in long hours and at times they spend the night in the field but they do get to come home and if needed can make arrangements in times of emergencies or when the need arises. The chain of command understands the drill sergeants have the hard job to train and

prepare our future Soldiers. One way we try and help the drill sergeants and their families is to do drill sergeant orientation course, drill sergeant spouse orientation, and drill sergeant trail break. Chaplain Kennis is a great asset to the Battalion. He is here to help the Soldiers in training and to help permanent party Soldiers and their families. Chaplain Kennis puts together numerous programs and luncheons to get information to all of our Soldiers. The Chaplain's Assistant SPC Tchoua does a lot of work behind the scenes taking care of facilities for our Trainees, so they have a place to worship.

As you may know within the battalion we have very little in support staff. I would like to take this time to thank everyone in the S1 shop; SSG Wells, SSG Morales, SGT Pressley, SGT Hensley and PFC Asbeil. For our S3 Shop which has a smaller staff but seems to keep up with what the commander and I put on them, so maybe they can do more and they are just holding out! Just kidding they stay very busy, but thanks to MSG Cook, MSG Bowe, SSG Reed, SSG Olmeda, and SSG Hill.

(continuation on page 3)

"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1, Page 2

Family Readiness Corner

DS Trailbreak: The DSTB is designed to give mid-tour and extended-tour Drill Sergeants and their spouses an opportunity to focus on matters that often are neglected during the intense day-to-day operations of training new Soldiers. The events consists of but is not limited to health promotion, personnel records checks, stress management, classes in financial readiness, communication skills and a three-day marriage enrichment training conducted at a Hotel. The last trip was to Great Wolf Lodge in TX - all Expenses paid! Sign up with our Chaplain's Office!

"Strong Bonds" Family Retreat Opportunity: Strengthens the marital bond giving couples the tools and information they need for better communication and relationship building.

"Drill Sergeant Spouse Orientation" — This program is designed to integrate DS spouses into the upcoming life of Drill Sergeants. The class consist of self care topics, legacy of the Drill Sergeant, appreciation of training civilians into Soldiers, and involvement of spouses (ie.FRG, Cycle Break/Trail Break Activities). (Lunch and Child Care are provided)



"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1, Page 3

Bn Cdrs Corner Continued:

we have seen with the Family Support Groups and with the end of cycle social events. Each battery has done a remarkable job supporting each other and with their fundraising efforts. In addition, many family members have really gotten involved in their Battery FRG functions but we still have to reach out to more. CSM Estep addresses some of the great initiatives to spark this, like the Drill Sergeant Spouse Orientation Program and our Family Strong Bonds Retreats. There are lots of great programs and initiatives on Fort Sill and we have highlighted a few in this Newsletter. We will also be establishing a more user friendly Battalion FRG Website in soonest. Our goal and focus is to ensure all our Soldiers and Families understand and have access to the tremendous number of agencies and programs that are available to assist when needed. Keep up the great work in this area.

Congratulations to the many Cadre Leaders that we have promoted recently and thanks to all of our great soldiers that have reenlisted already this year – you have put the Battalion on pace to exceed our retention goals for the year. Unfortunately, we have said good-bye to many outstanding Gauntlet

Drill Sergeants & leaders who are moving on to their next units – we have listed them inside this Newsletter. Their positive contribution to the success of this Battalion and their Battery Teams has been immeasurable and they leave behind a tremendous legacy of success and contribution to our Army! We will truly miss you all.

The good news is that we have had an influx of exceptional Drill Sergeants, fresh from their Operational units (and likely a deployment or 2 x ☺) and the US Army Drill Sergeant's School who are doing great work already. Am confident that they have picked up from our "Old Timers" and will carry the ball forward as we continue our mission. Welcome to the Gauntlet – All for One Team! We are very happy you are here with us and look forward to seeing more of you across the next few cycles!

Have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season and we look forward to seeing everyone back ready for action after New Years!

Gauntlet 6

JON C. DAVIS
LTC, FA
Commanding

CSM's Corner Continued...

SFC Driscoll does an outstanding job being a one-man show. Our S4, I think, is the best in brigade. He is always ahead of what has to be done. For our staff I want to say thank you for making my job easy and taking pride in your work.

The last group I would like to thank is all of our civilians. Our training room technicians, supply technicians, and Ms. Chancellor in S1 thanks for all of your hard work and dedication. We do appreciate what you do for us every day.

I hope and pray that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and great Christmas. Spend time with family and friends and give thanks for what we have. Remember all of the Soldiers who are away from their families during this holiday season.

Gauntlet 7

Edward Estep
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

"All for One"



"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1, Page 4

Happy Birthday!!

"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count.
It's the life in your years"

- Abraham Lincoln!

October

1SG Lavigne
SFC Andrews
SFC Bernal
SSG Cronquist
SSG Davis
SSG Manila
SSG Seitz
SSG Wilcox
SSG Kaiser

November

MAJ Eason
2LT Lawrence
SFC Driscoll
SFC Hazell
SSG Green
SSG Ney
SSG Bracamontes
SSG Zamaripa
SSG Thomason
SSG Rasavongsy
SSG Kendall
SSG Smith
SSG Ong
SGT Rotti

December

2LT McQuaige
CSM Estep
SFC Seville
SFC Rosette
SFC Woods
SSG Contreras
SSG Wilson
SSG Safranski
SSG Parks
SGT Durham
SGT Brown



Congratulations on your Promotion:

1LT White	
SFC Carns	SFC Love
SFC Small	SSG Tabaka

Deployments:

"Missing someone gets easier every day because even though it's one day further from the last time you saw each other, it's one day closer to the next time you will." ~Author Unknown

I wish the very best to the 1-40th Soldiers who are deployed and their families. Hang in there, in no time you will be welcoming them back home!



LTC Pastore



CPT Shields



1LT Dinkel



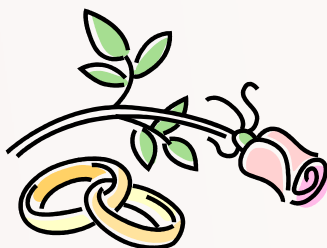
SFC Anthony

Key Events and Dates to Remember:

- 1-40 FA Battalion Christmas Party, Saturday 12 Dec 09 1600-1900 @ FT Sill REC PLEX (Sheridan Rd)
- Holiday Block Leave: 19 Dec 09 to 1 Jan 10 (Sat, 2 DEC 09 Soldiers begin to return to FT Sill / BCT)
- Lawton/FT Sill Living Christmas Tree Ceremony: Sunday 13 Dec 09, 1st Baptist Church 1500-1630
- Free Live Christmas Trees for Military Families from the Christmas Spirit Foundation & FED EX Trees for Troops Program: FT Sill Recycle Center on Sheridan Rd / Mow-Way Rd
 - Saturday, 12 DEC 09 0730-1700
 - Sunday, 13 DEC 09 0900-1700
 - Mon-Wed, 14-16 DEC 09 0900-1800
- 1-40 FA Block Leave Dates: Friday 18 December 2009 through Friday 1 2359 January 2010.

"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1 , Page 5



Congratulations on your Anniversary!

"Your anniversary is a time
For sharing your affection;
It's obvious the two of you
Have quite a deep connection!
We send glad congratulations
And heartfelt wishes, too,
For joyful happiness and love
In everything you do".

By Joanna Fuchs

October

MAJ Eason and Mrs. Eason
CSM Estep and Mrs. Estep
MSG Bowe and Mrs. Bowe
SFC Driscoll and Mrs. Driscoll
SSG Green and Mrs. Green
Mr. Spencer and Mrs. Spencer

November

2LT McQuaige and Mrs. McQuaige
1SG Perera and Mrs. Perera
SSG Anderson and Mrs. Anderson
SSG Morales-Smith and SSG Smith

December

SFC Lapsley and Mrs. Lapsley
SFC Love and Mr. Love
SFC Mayers and Mrs. Mayers
SFC Nunnally and Mrs. Nunnally
SSG Olejnik and Mrs. Olejnik
SSG Ong and Mrs. Ong
SSG Rivers and Mrs. Rivers
SSG Smith and Mrs. Smith
SSG Thomason and Mrs. Thomason

We have new arrivals to the 1-40th Family, please welcome:

Baby McQuaige
Congratulations 1LT McQuaige and Mrs McQuaige!!

Baby Wells
Congratulations SSG Wells and Mr. Wells!!

Baby Mclvor
Congratulations SSG Mclvor and Mrs. Mclvor!!

Baby Zellner
Congratulations SGT Zellner and Mrs. Zellner!!

Last but not least, we want to announce our list of Partners at Central Mall

When showing ID card, Active Duty Military can receive military discounts at the following stores:

Adventure Travel	Maurice's
Aeropostale	Rainbow
AT&T	Regis
Buckle	Romancing the Stone
Candyopolis	Spencer's
Champs	Sprint
Charley's	T-Mobile
Christopher & Banks	US Cellular
Cinnabon	Vanity
Corn Dog 7	Verizon Wireless
El Chico	Zales
Finish Line	Rue21
Footlocker	
Garfield's Restaurant and Pub	
Gordon's Jewelers	
Graham Jewelry	
Great American Cookie Co.	
Harris Jewelry	
Hot Topic	
Kay Jewelry	
Lady Footlocker	
Man Alive	
Master Cuts	

See attached flyer for details

"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1 , Page 6

To those who Reenlisted:

I thank you for your decision to re-enlist, to stay in the service of our nation and keeping our military forces strong with your experience and your professionalism.



DS McIvor



DS Woods



DS Parks



SGT Dorsey



DS Zellner



DS Wilson

"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1 , Page 7

"All for One" Wall of Fame



1LT White promotion



2LT DeNenno awarded AAM for the
successful Air Assault Training
Exercise



We say goodbye to our Snowbirds.
Good Luck!!



Before taking off for the Air Assault Mission.



We say goodbye to 1SG Larsen and
welcome 1SG Briscoe in C BTRY



What do we do now????

"ALL FOR ONE" NEWS

7 December 2009
Volume 10, Issue 1 , Page 8

"All for One" Wall of Fame



Virginia Military Institute (VMI)
Graduates Link up at ST Barbara's
Day, 5 DEC 09 – BN XO MAJ Eason
(Class '94) and PFC Jones, Alpha Btry
(Class of 2008)



Delta Battery Drill Sergeant of
the Cycle DS & Ms Zamaripa



Alpha Battery Soldiers Win the USMC
Devil Dog 10KM Run!